

THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN,
WILLIAM TRELEASE, DIRECTOR.

ASSISTANTS:
BOTANY,—A. S. HITCHCOCK.
HORTICULTURE,—J. C. DUFFEY.
JAMES GURNEY, HEAD GARDENER.

ST. LOUIS, MO., May 25th, 1890.

Dear Dr. Watson

I thank you for the information on the points of which I wrote. I hope you will not misunderstand me in regard to the nomenclature I intend to follow in my Catalogue. I have talked the matter over some with Prof. Trelease and I concluded to take this position — to adopt the earliest name which the plant had received under its accepted genus. This would give me a chance to become familiar with the literature. I will follow the Manual in the names & sequence of orders, the names (with one or two exceptions) & sequence of genera. Where the species is different from the one given I will give the manual synonymy. There are many cases in the Manual where, for good reasons, the earliest name has not been used. As, *Cuscuta cephalanthi* Engelm. & *C. Cryptogama* earlier than *C. ampelae* Engelm. & *C. inflexa* Engelm. *Impatiens aurea* Nutt. & *I. biflora* Walt. are earlier than *I. pallida* Nutt. & *I. fulva*, Nutt. But I am after

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ST. LOUIS, MO., _____, 189_____.

Confronted by difficulties of identity.
 At this point I have appealed to some
 high authority. For instance I had no
 means of knowing that *Anemone*
dichotoma was distinct from *A. Pennsylvanicum*
 as I could not refer to the original description
 nor to the plants. In the case of *Delphinium*
azuricum Michx & *D. Carolinicum* Walt
 Galt's description was so unsatisfactory as
 to lead me to suspect that there might be doubt
 although *gum* is a synonym in the Index
 You have helped me over several difficul-
 ties of this kind & I take pleasure in
 again thanking you & shall add to my
 statements in due case (if you have no objection)
 [see Watson] I am doing the work in
 the Catalog chiefly for its educational
 benefits to be derived.

We have in the Engelman Herb. sets of
 plants from Cuba, collected by Wright 1860-4 - Texas &
 Mexico, Berlandier - Mexico Gregg 1848-9 - Can
 you tell me if there are any published lists of
 these sets?

Yours Very Truly,
 A. S. Hitchcock

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